



NSWOCC FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM



NURSES SPECIALIZED IN
WOUND, OSTOMY AND CONTINENCE
CANADA
INFIRMIÈRES SPÉCIALISÉES EN
PLAIES, STOMIES ET CONTINENCE
CANADA

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Executive Summary

The NSWOCC Fellowship Program offered by Nurses Specialized in Wound, Ostomy, and Continence Canada (NSWOCC) provides prestigious recognition elevating the careers of certified NSWOCs who have made exemplary contributions to the field. This fellowship program is grounded in promoting excellence across clinical practice, policy development, education, and research, aiming to improve patient outcomes and drive high standards in wound, ostomy and continence nursing. Fellows selected for this program are acknowledged for their significant impact on the field at various levels, from local to international, where they demonstrate leadership, innovation, and dedication to advancing practices in wound, ostomy, and continence care. Through their expertise, fellows contribute to critical quality initiatives that support effective, evidence-based patient-centered care.

In addition to the honor of being chosen, fellows are awarded the credential **FNSWOC or Fellow in Nursing Specialized in Wound, Ostomy and Continence**, a mark of professional distinction that reflects their specialized knowledge, experience, commitment, and contributions to the field. This designation not only enhances their professional identity but also positions them as leaders who advocate for quality improvement within healthcare systems and mentor the next generation of wound, ostomy and continence professionals. Applicants go through a rigorous selection process that includes a comprehensive review of their professional achievements, contributions to the field, and potential for future impact. They are also expected to support NSWOCC's mission by nominating future candidates and actively engaging in mentoring roles. By fostering a network of professionals who are dedicated to innovation and leadership in wound, ostomy and continence nursing, the fellowship aims to elevate the specialty and provide meaningful improvements in patient care across Canada.



Fellowship Objectives

RECOGNIZE EXCELLENCE

Acknowledge and honor NSWOCs who have exhibited outstanding dedication and contributions within NSWOCC and the wound, ostomy and continence nursing specialty.

PROMOTE LEADERSHIP

Foster leadership skills and empower Fellows to take on prominent roles in healthcare organizations, education, research, and policy development.

ADVANCE SCHOLARSHIP

Encourage scholarly activities and research within the wound, ostomy and continence nursing field, contributing to the body of knowledge and evidence-based practices.

ENHANCE MEMBERSHIP ENGAGEMENT

Engage Fellows in actively supporting and mentoring fellow NSWOCC members, thereby strengthening the organization.

IMPROVE QUALITY

Leverage the expertise of Fellows to drive quality initiatives and improvements in wound, ostomy and continence nursing practice and healthcare systems.

Application Process

Nominations to the NSW OCC Fellowship Program will be based on a call for submissions issued annually in January. Fellowship reviewers will evaluate all submissions using the criteria below and nominate the highest-ranking candidates to be a **Fellow in Nursing Specialized in Wound, Ostomy and Continence (FNSWOC)** through Nurses Specialized in Wound, Ostomy and Continence Canada. There will be a maximum of five new fellows selected each year.

Fellowship fees

- Initial submission: \$275.00 CDN
- Annual fees for Fellowship title: \$50.00 CDN plus NSW OCC Membership of \$100.00 plus the JWOCN mandatory fee of \$46.00 if not receiving the JWOCN from the WOCN directly.

Eligibility

1. Confirmed membership in NSW OCC.
2. Certified in Wound, Ostomy and Continence Nursing through the Canadian Nurses Association
3. Minimum of ten years of clinical practice, leadership, education and/or research in the fields of wound, ostomy and/or continence

Prospective Fellows must show evidence of meeting the following criteria:

1. Demonstration of outstanding individual professional and leadership contributions in wound, ostomy and continence nursing (clinical practice, policy, education, research and/or administration), with impact on improvement of wound, ostomy and continence nursing at the international, national, provincial, and regional/local levels.
2. Evidence that these contributions have been translated into clinical practice, policy, education, research and/or administration in a meaningful way.
3. Formal recognition for these contributions (e.g., substantive, and prestigious honours, appointments, or awards).
4. Evidence of leadership in activities that have had an impact on wound, ostomy and continence nursing, health, or health care (e.g., research, innovations or developments in clinical practice, policy, education, research and/or administration).

Submission Requirements

- Demographic information, including current employer, license/registration number, jurisdiction of registration and regulator (some fields are optional for those who do not have a current employer)
- CV (all styles accepted; must be PDF file)
- A high-resolution photograph to be used in the printed commemorative program.
- Brief 300-word biography
- A four-part description of the individual contributions to wound, ostomy and continence nursing:
 - **Summary of individual contributions** (maximum 300 words):
 - Summarize the most outstanding individual achievements in clinical practice, policy, education, research and/or administration. Describe the impact of these achievements on the improvement of wound, ostomy and continence nursing. The impact can be at any geographic level, including international, national, provincial, and regional/local.
 - Please use language suitable for a public audience (e.g., media release).
 - **Context of contributions** (maximum 300 words):
 - Describe the context(s) in which contributions to wound, ostomy and continence nursing have been made. This might include mention of the roles held and the work done in the context of those roles. If key contributions have involved teamwork, explain explicit role in relation to the team accomplishments.
 - **Evidence of the impact of contributions** (maximum 500 words):
 - Provide substantive evidence of the sustained and significant impact of contributions to wound, ostomy and continence nursing. Although different forms of nursing leadership are impactful in quite different ways, we encourage the identification the measurable impact of the work. Ensure that the information listed in the CV and the nominator statements align as well as possible with the description provide.
 - **How contributions relate to the fellowship** (maximum 300 words):
 - Fellowship implies a commitment to service. How do you envision making an ongoing contribution to advancing the aims of the NSW OCC?

Submission Requirements

- Nominator Statements. Application should include two (2) nominators.
- Nominators include current fellows, NSWOC leaders, wound, ostomy, and continence national and international leaders. nominators must be members of NSWOCC.
 - Statement of support should provide one or more of the following:
 - Evidence of the applicant's significant and sustained contributions to wound, ostomy and continence nursing (practice, policy, education, research and/or administration) as well as a description of how he or she will continue such work.
 - Examples of the impact of these contributions to wound, ostomy and continence nursing (practice, policy, education, research and/or administration).
 - A detailed summary of how the applicant's contributions are in line with the fellowship criteria. The summary should support the evidence you have provided about the applicant.
 - Summarize the applicant's relationship to the applicant, including the nature and length of the relationship.

Fellow Responsibilities

- Applicants attend the induction ceremony occurring during the annual NSWOCC conference
- Nominate at minimum one qualified applicant for fellowship each year
- Further the mission, vision, and values of Nurses Specialized in Wound, Ostomy and Continence Canada
- Participate and contribute to NSWOCC activities as called upon
- Provide advisory input to NSWOCC as requested
- Act as a mentor and resource for new NSWOCs and future NSWOC leaders
- Foster healthcare provider knowledge through dissemination of experience and professional role modeling through such forms as joining committees, conducting research, participating on guideline and standard development, or providing leadership through professional associations and leading programs
- Advocate for evidence based patient centered wound, ostomy and continence care



The establishment of the NSWOCC Fellowship Program is an important step in recognizing and nurturing the excellence of Nurses Specialized in Wound, Ostomy, and Continence in Canada. By supporting their professional growth, leadership development, and scholarly contributions, we can elevate the NSWOC specialty, enhance patient care, and contribute to the advancement of healthcare systems.



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